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PARASITES OF THE COTTON WORM.

BY PROF. C. V. RILEY, WASHINGTON, U. S.

Among the parasites so far found to attack and destroy *Aletia argillacea* Hübn., aside from two not reared to the perfect state, are the following: Obtained from the egg, *Trichogramma pretiosa* n. sp.; from the larva, *Tachina aletiae* n. sp., and *Sarcophaga sarracenie* Riley; from the pupa, *Pimpla conquisitor* (Say), *Cryptus nuncius* Say, *Chalcis ovata* Say, and *Cirrospilus esurus*, n. sp.

I append descriptions of the new species, in order that they may be properly referred to by Prof. J. H. Comstock, who is now finishing the report on the Cotton Worm begun by me while connected with the Département of Agriculture.

I. TRICHOGRAMMA PRETIOSA, n. sp.—Length about 0.3 mm. Yellow, the eyes red, the wings hyaline. Head wider than the thorax; antennæ 5-jointed, joints 3 and 4 in the ♀ forming an ovate mass and together shorter than joint 2; joint 5 large, thickened and very obliquely truncate; in the ♂ joints 3, 4 and 5 form a more or less distinct, elongate club, beset with long bristles. Hairs of the wings arranged in about fifteen lines. Abdomen not so wide as the thorax, but as long as the head and thorax together; in the ♀ the sides subparallel, and the apical joint suddenly narrowed to a point. Described from numerous specimens reared from eggs of *Aletia argillacea*.

Differs from *Trichogramma minuta* Riley (Third Rep. Ins. Mo., p. 158, fig. 72, ♀) in its smaller size and uniform pale yellow color, and also in the form of the third and fourth joints of the antennæ. As defined and figured by Westwood, the antennæ of *Trichogramma* are 6-jointed. Walker, in his "Notes on the Chalcidæ," pt. vi., p. 105, employing

Forster's characters, says the antennæ are 8-jointed ; but an examination of the figure of the type (*Trichogramma evanescens*, l. c., p. 114) shows that one of the joints counted is the "annulus" above the scape, which I do not consider to be a true joint, and that what I have indicated as the apical joint, in agreement with Westwood, is represented in that figure as three coalesced joints. I have proposed the generic name of *Pentarthrum* for *minuta* in MS. now in Mr. Scudder's hands, but until the allied genera are better characterized than at present, it is best to use the old genus *Trichogramma*.

2. *CIRROSPILUS ESURIUS*, n. sp.—Length 1.5 mm. Dull black; knees, tibiæ and tarsi yellowish, the posterior tibiæ sometimes dusky. Eyes with scattered, short bristles. Antennæ of the ♂ 9-jointed, with the joints of the flagellum subequal and beset with bristles, the ninth joint small. Antennæ of the ♀ 8-jointed, the fourth and fifth shorter than the second and third, the three apical joints forming a club. Thorax above microscopically punctate; parapsides distinct and elevated; scutellum with a longitudinal, impressed line on each side. Wings hyaline, pubescent, but the cilia short; base of ulna uneven; radius not developed. Abdomen short and sessile, ovate. Described from numerous specimens reared from the pupa of *Aletia argillacea*.

This species shows relationship with the genus *Tetrastichus* Halliday, and may ultimately be referred there. For the present I prefer to place it in the older genus.

3. *TACHINA ALETIÆ*, n. sp.—Length 8 mm. Black; head golden, facial depression silvery, space between the eyes and the frontal stripe about equal to the breadth of the stripe, bristles of the head black, the pubescence behind and beneath the eyes white; antennæ blackish, palpi testaceous. Eyes at a moderate distance apart, thinly pubescent; front moderately prominent; third joint of the antennæ three or four times the length of the second joint. Thorax and the second and following abdominal joints more or less ashy, the thorax with four or five longitudinal black stripes. Wings subhyaline. Legs black, with a piceous tinge; tarsal cushions yellowish. Scutellum and the sides of the first, second and third abdominal joints sometimes tinged with reddish-brown. No strong bristles on the first and second abdominal joints above.

Described from two specimens, reared in November, 1878, from the pupa of *Aletia argillacea*.